

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. **(Previously Presented)** A method of fabricating a waistband comprising the steps of; applying heat and pressure to a layer of woven fabric strands along the length of the layer to force the fabric strands substantially across the width of the fabric closer together to impart a semi-permanent stretch into the fabric, simultaneously compressing a layer of synthetic thermoplastic interlining along the layer of the interlining to introduce a compressive shrinkage in the interlining, and bonding the layer of synthetic thermoplastic interlining to the fabric layer while both layers are in the compressed state.

Claim 2 **(Canceled)**

Claim 3 **(Canceled)**

4. **(Previously Presented)** A method as claimed in claim 1 in which the bonding is carried out by coating or film which as well as bonding will impart stretch to the final combined product.

5. **(Original)** A method as claimed in claim 4 in which the bonding coating or film is a polyurethane material.

6. **(Previously Presented)** A method as claimed in claim 4 in which the bonding coating or film is coated on either the woven non-synthetic fabric or the interlining fabric or is a film interposed between the two.

7. **(Previously Presented)** A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the interlining material used is a fine woven polyamide or polyester fabric.

8. **(Original)** A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein a standard rigid fusible non-woven or other relatively tight knitted material is processed in narrow width form with a stretch waistband fabric to produce a laminate which has stretch characteristics in the length direction.

9. **(Original)** A method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the stretch fabric is tensioned during processing with the interlining so that it is compressively 'shrunk' back to its original dimensions.

10. **(Previously Presented)** A waistband comprising; a layer of woven fabric strands that is a non-synthetic textile material which cannot normally be permanently set by heat alone in a compressed state along and across the width of the fabric layer to force the fabric strands closer together to impart a generally semi-permanent stretch into the fabric layer, a layer of synthetic interlining of a thermoplastic that can be heat set and in a compressed state along the layer of the interlining to introduce a compressive shrinkage in the interlining, said layer of synthetic thermoplastic interlining being bonded to said fabric layer to maintain both layers in the compressed state.

Claim 11 **(Canceled)**

Claim 12 **(Canceled)**

13. **(Previously Presented)** A fabric set as set forth in claim 10 wherein the synthetic interlining material comprises a fine woven fabric.

14. **(Previously Presented)** A fabric as set forth in claim 10 wherein said interlining material comprises one of a polyamide and a polyester.

15. **(Previously Presented)** A method of treating a woven fabric strip to produce a stretchable fabric combination which comprises the steps of:

(a) passing the strip lengthwise through a fabric treatment apparatus, the fabric treatment apparatus applying pressure to the fabric along its length and also heat in such a manner that the yarn strands substantially across the width of the fabric strip are forced closer together thus imparting generally semi permanent stretch into the fabric; and

(b) simultaneously passing a synthetic interlining fabric through said apparatus thereby applying a compressive shrinkage thereto; and

(c) at least partially bonding the woven fabric to the synthetic interlining fabric.